

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 053597
ORIGIN CA-01

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 /012 R

DRAFTED BY CA:LMWAUCHOPE
APPROVED BY CA:BMWATSON

-----090314 021759Z /46

P 021703Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMCONSUL CASABLANCA PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 053597

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CGEN, MO

SUBJECT: CONSULAR CONFERENCE

REF: (A) VILLEGOUREIX-RITAUD/WAUCHOPE TELCON 3/1/78
(B) CASABLANCA 263

1. ASSISTANT SECRETARY WATSON PLEASED TO ACCEPT INVITATION OF AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TO ADDRESS ITS MONTHLY LUNCHEON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15 IN CASABLANCA. MISS WATSON WILL SPEAK, IN ENGLISH, ON THE SUBJECT "FREEDOM OF TRAVEL." MISS WATSON WILL OUTLINE THE ADMINISTRATION'S STRONG COMMITMENT TO THE FREEDOM OF TRAVEL BETWEEN NATIONS AS EXPRESSED IN THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS. THE UNITED STATES IS SENSITIVE TO THE DESIRABILITY OF DOING EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO FACILITATE TRAVEL BOTH AS A MEANS OF STRENGTHENING THE ECONOMIES OF ALL NATIONS AND, MORE IMPORTANTLY, AS A CONTRIBUTION TO THE PRESERVATION OF PEACE BETWEEN PEOPLES.

2. BIOGRAPHIC DATA FOLLOWS. DEPARTMENT UNDERSTANDS POST UNCLASSIFIED

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CAN PREPARE FRENCH TRANSLATION.

--MISS EARBARA M. WATSON OF NEW YORK, NOMINATED BY PRESIDENT CARTER, SERVES AS THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF

STATE FOR CONSULAR AFFAIRS.

--FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR, BUREAU OF SECURITY AND CONSULAR AFFAIRS, THE TITLE OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR CONSULAR AFFAIRS WAS SIGNED INTO LAW ON AUGUST 17, 1977.

--MISS WATSON WAS SWORN IN ON APRIL 13, 1977, AND IS RESPONSIBLE FOR VISA AND PASSPORT MATTERS AND SPECIAL CONSULAR SERVICES.

--HAVING PREVIOUSLY SERVED IN THIS POSITION FROM AUGUST 1968 THROUGH DECEMBER 1974, MISS WATSON FIRST JOINED THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE IN JULY 1966 AS SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY FOR ADMINISTRATION. SHE WAS APPOINTED DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR OF THE BUREAU OF SECURITY AND CONSULAR AFFAIRS IN OCTOBER 1966, ACTING ADMINISTRATOR IN APRIL 1967, AND ADMINISTRATOR IN AUGUST 1968.

--A NATIVE OF NEW YORK CITY, MISS WATSON IS THE DAUGHTER OF THE LATE JUDGE AND MRS. JAMES S. WATSON. JUDGE WATSON, THE FIRST NEGRO ELECTED TO A JUDGESHIP IN NEW YORK, SERVED AS MUNICIPAL COURT JUSTICE FOR TWENTY YEARS AND LATER PRESIDENT OF THE NEW YORK CITY CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION.

--MISS WATSON RECEIVED HER ACADEMIC TRAINING AT BARNARD COLLEGE, WHERE SHE EARNED A BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE, AND NEW YORK LAW SCHOOL, WHERE SHE OBTAINED A BACHELOR OF UNCLASSIFIED

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LAWS DEGREE, GRADUATING THIRD IN HER CLASS. A COMMITTEE OF EMINENT JURISTS SELECTED HER AS THE "MOST OUTSTANDING LAW STUDENT IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK." MISS WATSON HOLDS AN HONORARY DOCTOR OF LAWS DEGREE FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND AND AN HONORARY DOCTOR OF HUMANE LETTERS DEGREE FROM MOUNT SAINT MARY COLLEGE.

--MISS WATSON IS THE RECIPIENT OF THE 1974 DEPARTMENT OF STATE LUTHER I. REPLOGLE AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING MANAGEMENT ABILITIES.

--IN ADDITION TO HER SERVICE WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, MISS WATSON HAS HAD BROAD EXPERIENCE IN BOTH GOVERNMENT AND NON-GOVERNMENT POSITIONS. THROUGHOUT HER CAREER SHE HAS SERVED IN CAPACITIES SUCH AS ASSISTANT CORPORATION COUNSEL IN THE LAW DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK, AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE NEW YORK CITY COMMISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS. THE LAST-NAMED COMMISSION IS THE OFFICIAL LIAISON BETWEEN THE CITY OF NEW YORK AND UNITED NATIONS PERSONNEL AND DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVES TO THE WORLD BODY. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE053597
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: LMWAUCHOPE
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780096-0064
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197803114/aaaadsnl.tel
Line Count: 115
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 09d3bab9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN CA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 CASABLANCA 263
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3138819
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONSULAR CONFERENCE
TAGS: CGEN, MO
To: CASABLANCA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/09d3bab9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014